

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

SPC-03 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 L-03 NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 SS-20 USIA-15 STR-08

CEA-02 /190 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:JKBISHOP:RCB

APPROVED BY AF/W:JLLOUGHRAN

AF/P:RJPELTIER (SUBS)

EB/IFD/ODF:EMLINTON

L/AF:BKHUFFMAN

H:KFOLGER (SUBS)

AFR/CWA:DGRIFITHS

TREASURY:HSHAPIRO (SUBS)

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P R 201459Z MAR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ACCRA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, EFIN, PFOR, IBRD, GH

SUBJECT: GHANA DEBT: PUBLICITY REGARDING SETTLEMENT

REF: ROME 3526

1. BRITISH EMBASSY REPORTS ASHLEY-LASSEN ASKED LEQUESNE
AFTER SIGNATURE OF AGREED MINUTE IN ROME WHAT PLANS CREDI-
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TORS HAD FOR PUBLICIZING AGREEMENT. LEQUESNE REPLIED

SUBJECT HAD NOT BEEN DISCUSSED.

2. LEQUESNE HAS PROPOSED THROUGH UK EMBASSY THAT CREDITORS AUTHORIZE HIM TO INFORM ASHLEY-LASSEN CREDITORS PLAN GIVE NO PUBLICITY TO AGREED MINUTE AND THAT, IF QUERIED BY LEGISLATURES OR PRESS, CREDITORS WILL STATE ONLY THAT AGREED MINUTE HAS BEEN SIGNED WITHOUT GIVING DETAILS. LEQUESNE SUGGESTS CREDITORS ALTER THIS STANCE ONLY IF GOG GIVES DISTORTED PUBLIC ACCOUNT OF AGREED MINUTE.

3- DEPARTMENT HAS INFORMED UK EMBASSY THE RECOLLECTION USDEL IS THAT WHEN ISSUE OF PUBLICITY DISCUSSED AMONG CREDITORS AT ROME IN RESPONSE FRENCH QUERY AS TO WHAT CREDITORS PLANNED TELL SOVIETS, SEVERAL CREDITORS REPLIED THEY EXPECTED TREAT AGREED MINUTE AS A PUBLIC DOCUMENT. USG ALREADY HAS INFORMED ONE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE OF SIGNATURE AGREED MINUTE AND PLANS SO INFORM OTHERS DURING AID HEARINGS, AS THIS WILL ENHANCE POSSIBILITIES FOR REENTION \$19 MILLION EARMARKED FOR GHANA IN FY 1973 AS WELL AS AUTHORIZATION OF FY 1975 FUNDS. COPY OF AGREED MINUTE TO BE GIVEN FULBRIGHT COMMITTEE IN ACCORDANCE ITS DESIRE BE INFORMED OF AGREEMENTS IN WHICH USG PARTICIPATING. USG DOES NOT PLAN ANY PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT BUT INTENDS RESPOND CANDIDLY TO ANY PRESS INQUIRIES.

4. ACCORDING GYASI-TWUN, GOG ONLY AWAITING RETURN TO ACCRA OF ASHLEY-LASSEN AND OTHER MEMBERS NEGOTIATING TEAM BEFORE PUBLICIZING AGREED MINUTE LOCALLY. UNDERSTAND GHANA EMBASSY WASHINGTON TRYING PERSUADE WASHINGTON POST TO REPORT SETTLEMENT. KISSINGER

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